



# Whether Common or Not

By Will A. Mumpie.

### The Baby

He's a roly-poly, cunning little mite,  
 Such a smiling, dancing, cooling, elfin  
 sprite,  
 That his smile makes burdens  
 lighter,  
 And his love makes dark days  
 brighter,  
 And his presence gives a feeling of  
 delight.  
 Such a constant source of happiness  
 and joy  
 In this rosy-lipped and brown-eyed  
 little boy.

Such a funny little language that he  
 speaks—  
 Little gurgle, little coolings, little  
 squeaks.  
 But each little intonation  
 Bears its bit of information,  
 And the cunning little dimples in his  
 cheeks,  
 Coming, going, like the sunbeams in  
 their play,  
 Lighten up my little cottage ev'ry  
 day.

When I feel his cunning fingers on my  
 face,  
 Feel the little lines of love his fingers  
 trace,  
 With no king, though high his  
 station,  
 Loyal, strong or wide his nation,  
 Would I trade "for keeps" my humble  
 lot or place.  
 For no kingly place could ever give  
 the joy  
 That I feel when playing with the  
 baby boy.

When the angels hover o'er him as  
 he sleeps,  
 And their loving care a constant vigil  
 keeps,  
 Who can tell the joy I'm feeling  
 When the love light is revealing  
 Ev'ry smile that o'er his rosy visage  
 creeps?  
 Such a joy no kingly ransom e'er could  
 buy;  
 And we have it daily, darling, you  
 and I.

God watch over you, my baby, every  
 day;  
 Guard thy footsteps as you journey  
 on life's way.  
 Keep your feet from ever straying,  
 Every wrongful action staying—  
 Be thy life a life of service— this I  
 pray.  
 May your heart be ever loyal, brave  
 and true—  
 All our hopes, dear little boy, are  
 fixed on you.

### One Sided

As Mr. Crushley crawled under the  
 piano he ventured to make a protest.  
 "Well, didn't you take me for bet-  
 ter or for worse?" snapped Mrs.  
 Crushley.  
 "Yes, that is what I did," moaned  
 Mr. Crushley, gently rubbing as  
 many bruised spots as he could reach.  
 "But the trouble is I haven't had any  
 share of the first part of the bargain,  
 my dear."

### Too Realistic

The trust magnate who owned all  
 of the public franchises and saw a  
 few more that he wanted, had long  
 been talking loudly about his desire  
 for reform. On every conceivable oc-  
 casion he prated about "preserving  
 the honor of the municipality," and

none was more emphatic than he in  
 denouncing municipal corruption.  
 But on this especial occasion the  
 magnate sat in his private office, fum-  
 ing with rage. The mayor whom he  
 had supported had actually had the  
 temerity to veto a franchise ordinance  
 secured after hard work and the ex-  
 penditure of much money.

"I'll go right up and see him,"  
 spluttered the enraged magnate.  
 Seizing his hat he rushed to the  
 mayor's office and was at once ad-  
 mitted.  
 "You have betrayed me," declared  
 the magnate.

"But that ordinance was a deliberate  
 robbery of the people," said the mayor,  
 "and you were one of the chief men  
 in demanding my election because I  
 would stand by the people."

"But you forget that the gentlemen  
 who are associated with me in this  
 enterprise are the people," shouted  
 the magnate.

"I must stand by my pledges," in-  
 sisted the mayor.

O, if you are going to make this a  
 realistic performance instead of a  
 mere imitation, I might as well go,"  
 said the magnate. "But I do hate to  
 see a man like you take things so  
 seriously. That's the very thing that  
 is ruining the business of practical  
 politics."

### The Trouble

"What made you bolt Hussler's nom-  
 ination? He is an honest man, isn't  
 he?"  
 "O, yes; he's honest."  
 "And he'll carry out the pledges  
 your party's platform contains, will  
 he not?"  
 "You bet he will, and that's just  
 why I am opposing him."

### A Vision

Talk about the joys of autumn  
 I am ready to relate  
 That they've got 'em good and plenty  
 Down in old Missouri state,  
 Down in fertile old Missouri!  
 Where the juicy possums climb,  
 They're a having lots o' pleasure—  
 Pawpaw and persimmon time.

Mr. Possum in the oven,  
 Sweet potatoes in the grease;  
 'Simmon sauce a gently stewin'  
 While our appetites increase.  
 Corn-cob pipe a waltin' handy  
 And the cider in its prime;  
 Old Missouri's in her glory—  
 Possum and persimmon time.

I have heard the tree of knowledge  
 Was in fact a pawpaw tree,  
 Which, if true, condones Eve's action—  
 Couldn't help it, don't you see?  
 And the pawpaw, fat and luscious,  
 Now is in its frosty prime,  
 And they're happy in Missouri—  
 Pawpaw and persimmon time.

### Statistical

"I tell you, Mrs. Bildad, figures are  
 wonderful things!" exclaimed Mr. Bil-  
 dad, looking up from the sheet of  
 paper upon which he had been fig-  
 uring for an hour.  
 "Uh-huh," said Mrs. Bildad, who  
 was industriously darning a sock.  
 "I've just figured out how high a  
 stack of ten thousand silver dollars  
 would reach, just how far ten mil-  
 lion dollar bills would reach if placed  
 end to end, and just how many square  
 miles of surface the paper used in  
 a Sunday edition of our daily paper

would cover, and I'll read you the  
 results."

"Excuse me, my love," said Mrs.  
 Bildad, laying the sock aside. "But  
 before you do that just figure a little  
 more. You get the hatchet and figure  
 out just how many licks it takes to  
 prepare enough kindling for morning;  
 then just get the coal hod and figure  
 how many steps it is to the coal bin  
 and back, and while you are out just  
 count how many shovelfuls of coal it  
 take to fill the hod. And when you  
 get all that figured out you can give  
 me the results of your—"

But Mr. Bildad had torn the paper  
 into shreds, and what he said as he  
 started for the kitchen was warm  
 enough to heat the house for a week  
 in midwinter if some one could only  
 invent a way of storing and applying  
 the heat.

### Brain Leaks

A bird on the hat costs a plenty.  
 Perfect faith means perfect trust.  
 Only the foolish measure life by  
 length of years.

The man who loves his work seldom  
 wants for a job.

The wise man will not put his trust  
 in the labels on the can.

The man who boasts of his partisan-  
 ship exposes his narrowness.

The easiest man to deceive is the  
 man who thinks he knows it all.

The father who is not a hero to his  
 children should hasten to reform.

Jealousy and true love never get  
 along-well together in the same heart.

Big successes are never won by  
 taking little troubles home with you.

The lover of the bowl who tries to  
 "taper off" is pretty sure to "toper  
 off."

Some people who imagine them-  
 selves to be critics are merely fault-  
 finders.

People who get to heaven will first  
 have to start tributary establishments  
 down here.

The average man does not have to  
 go far from home to find a place to  
 begin reform work.

Good citizenship finds better ex-  
 pression at the ballot box than in  
 the street corner discussion.

Some people must think they are  
 paper mills, judging by the way they  
 are always chewing the rag.

The public always suffers when it  
 elects a man to office for the sole  
 purpose of affording him a way to  
 make a living.

You may be able to postpone coal  
 buying time by thinking of the price.  
 It is calculated to make the average  
 man quite hot.

The young man who tries to be "one  
 of the boys" may succeed at it, but  
 he is pretty apt to be a failure at  
 everything else.

A lot of men have been made mis-  
 erable by reason of being forced to  
 try to live up to an accidental reputa-  
 tion for brilliancy.

The man who is always boasting  
 of his willingness to fight for his  
 rights is usually the man who wants  
 more than is coming to him.

After you have noticed the way a  
 little wife can rule a big husband you  
 will no longer wonder that David had  
 such an easy time with Goliath.

The report that the California prune  
 crop will reach 110,000,000 bushels is  
 another bit of information that will  
 not be relished at the boarding house.

The most popular young lady in  
 our neighborhood is the one who is  
 equally as good at making bread as  
 she is at playing the piano, and she  
 is an artist at both.

Young man, if she suggests when  
 you bring a box of candy that you  
 would better be saving your money,  
 it is a sign that it is a good time to  
 ask the momentous question.

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